

D-1155 John Staples (1658-1740), a weaver, settled in Waban in about 1688. (The house at 1615 Beacon Street, the second on the site, incorporates the foundation and structural timbers of the original building). In 1670 he married Mary Craft (D-1154). Their wedding ceremony was probably the last one performed by Rev. John Eliot, Sr. They had no children, but Moses Craft (D-1179), probably Mary's nephew, "lived under [Staples's] roof" and inherited much of his estate. Among his bequests, Staples left seventeen acres to the Town "towards the support of the minister's fire". In 1781, when the Second Parish was incorporated, this west ministerial woodlot became a matter of dispute, not resolved until 1801 when it was conveyed to the West Parish.

Staples had served as fenceviewer and constable when he was persuaded to become the first schoolmaster (see Monument). In the same year he was elected selectman (eight years) and in 1714 was appointed town clerk and treasurer, an office he held until 1734. He was, in addition, a deacon and on committees to negotiate with John Cotton (D-1150), to choose a site for a new Meeting House (1714) and to dispose of the old building. In 1725 he was thanked by the Town for his services.

D-1085-6-7-8-9 Katey, Katey, Samuel, Mary and Sarah Craft, were the children of Samuel and Rebecca, and the grandchildren of Moses Craft (who lived with Staples).

D-1025 Mary (Shrimpton) (Gibbs) Sewall (1667-1746) was the widow of Judge Samuel Sewall. By her first husband, Robert Gibbs, she was the mother of Henry Gibbs (D-1174) and Mary, the wife of Rev. John Cotton (D-1150), with whom she was living when the Judge courted her. They were married in 1722. (The Museum of Fine Arts owns a portrait of Robert Gibbs as a child (1670) painted by an unknown artist.)

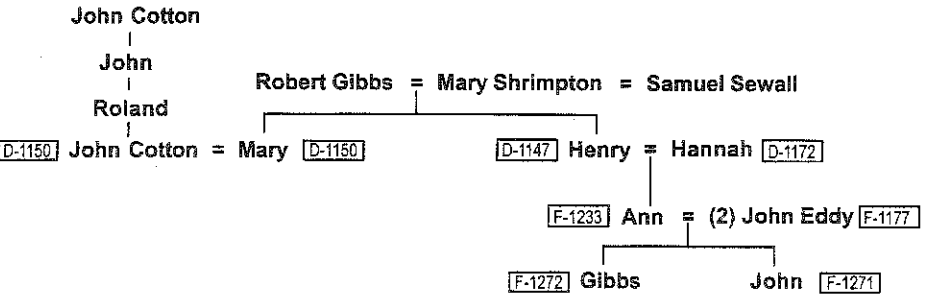


D-1150 Rev. John Cotton (1693-1757) was the great-grandson of John Cotton of Boston, Lincolnshire, who settled in New England in 1633. A Harvard graduate, Cotton was offered an additional fifty pounds a year and a one-time payment of one hundred pounds "for his encouragement" when he was selected from among five candidates (including a future president of the college) to fill the pulpit. He was ordained in 1714 at the age of twenty-one.

D-1174 Henry Gibbs (1694-1761) and his wife, Hannah moved from Boston (where their children were born) to Newton Centre (Gibbs Street) about 1742. In the 1800s his "mansion house" on Centre Street was the home and office of Marshall Rice, the last town clerk before Newton became a city.

Between 1747 and '58, Gibbs was a selectman or moderator, or both simultaneously, as well as the representative to the General Court and a Justice of the Peace. He served on several committees, including those appointed to build a new pound (the stone building would stand on Pound Lane, now Cypress Street), to build a workhouse (1750, though not completed until 1763); to petition the General Court to be relieved of the expense of maintaining the Cambridge Great Bridge; to oppose a petition from Watertown for enlarging the weir lands (1757), and, after the death of his brother-in-law, John Cotton, the committees to find a new minister and, subsequently, to "encourage Mr. Meriam".

D-1172 Hannah Gibbs (1699-1783).





SECTION E

E-1221 Joshua Murdock (1721-1799) was the grandson of Robert, who came from Roxbury and built the Murdock-Wiswall House now in the grounds of Mount Ida Junior College (see Monument).

Joshua's house was on Homer Street near the Meeting House which, for a time, was under his care. After filling several routine offices, he was on the committee that established regulations for the workhouse and was one of the first overseers, and in the year that the first woman teacher was appointed (1766) was on the committee on schools. Present at Concord and Lexington, he was active during the Revolution, serving on several committees of correspondence, inspection and safety, and subsequently on several others including those appointed to take care of the families of non-commissioned officers and privates, to study the draft of the new state constitution, and, in 1781 on yet another to support the repeal of the "act regulating the market", thereby removing "all impositions...that infringe on the liberties of a great number of people in the Commonwealth". He was a sergeant in the army and lent the Town sixty-four pounds to pay soldiers. He continued to fill minor town offices for several years after the War.

E-1364 Jonas Stone (1722-1804) was the grandson of Ebenezer (A-518). His house, on Dedham Street in Oak Hill, was probably inherited from his father, John, as was a right to a place in the noon house where people rested between church services. Of three later Stone houses on Dedham Street, one might have been built by Jonas's son.

Between 1749 and the outbreak of the Revolution, Jonas served as surveyor of highways, assessor, constable, overseer of the poor (in and out of the workhouse), tithingman and selectman, as well as on committees on schools and school-houses, on the Cambridge Great Bridge and as a trustee for its maintenance; on supervising the south ministerial wood lot and, in 1773, to consider the request from families living in the

West part of town for an appropriation for winter preaching. It was denied.

In 1774 he served on a Committee of Correspondence and on committees to instruct the representative to the General Court, and, the next year, the delegate to the Provincial Congress. He was twice a member of a committee to raise soldiers (appointed in response to the decision of the Continental Congress) and in 1778 and '80 he served on the committees studying the draft constitution for Massachusetts. After the War he filled several less demanding town offices.

E-1359 Abigail Stone (1698-1788) was the wife of John, and mother of Jonas. Note the price of her stone carved just above ground level on the left: Two pounds, no shillings and six pence.

E-1353 Dr. Samuel Wheat Jr. (1703-1770) and his wife, Hannah, were living in Newton in 1727 when their son, another Samuel, was born. Samuel Jr.'s father, Samuel Sr. who by then had moved back to Boston, had owned land in Newton since 1703; the Wheat House on Waltham Street, which dates from about 1735, was probably the work of William Williams, a grandson of Isaac (B-325). Samuel Jr. was a selectman for a year (1753), on the committee to seat the Meeting House in 1751 and for several years on the committee on schools.

E-1352 Hannah Wheat (1706-1792) was married to Dr. Samuel Wheat Jr. by 1727. Daniel Hastings was paid for her gravestones.

E-1436 Samuel Hastings (1701-1776) was born in Cambridge. In the 1730s he moved to West Newton where he established a tannery on Cheesecake Brook. He was not very active in town affairs, except, in 1764, when he was one of three men chosen by residents in the west part of Town, (where there had been occasional winter preaching) to form a committee to raise funds to build another meeting house. (Building started that year but, despite repeated requests, the West Parish was not incorporated until 1778.) In the 1760s Hastings moved to New-

ton Corner, where his son-in-law, Ebenezer Howard, and later his son Daniel Hastings, operated the workshop that produced so many of the carvings still marking the graves in the East and West Parish burying grounds.

E-1370 John Kenrick Esq. (1755-1833) was the son of John Kenrick (d. 1805, see C-745). In 1780 he married Mehitabel, daughter of the Rev. Jonas Meriam, and two years later bought the house on Waverley Avenue built by Edward Durant in 1732. (The Durant-Kenrick House is open to the public on a limited basis.) By the 1790s Kenrick had established the "first nursery of much importance in New England, known particularly for peach trees raised from stone". In 1828, thinking it would be an advantage if the Poor Farm were stocked with fruit trees, he offered the overseers young apple, English cherry, and peach trees and as many large currant bushes as they would like.

In 1818 he was appointed to a committee that investigated "the subject of dealing with the Town's poor", and maybe it was as a result of this that in 1825 he gave the first, and the largest, of several donations towards establishing the fund, the interest from which was to be used for "the aid and relief" of Newton's industrious poor "through all generations". The Kenrick Fund is still administered by the Board of Aldermen.

In 1826, he was a founding member (with the second largest contribution, \$5,) of the Newton Association for the Promotion of Temperance and, in 1832, he was elected (the second) president of the New England (later, the Massachusetts) Anti-Slavery Society.

In addition, he served as selectman, representative to the General Court and on a committee to draw up a Remonstrance disapproving of the embargo on foreign goods.

E-1368 Mehitabel (Foxcroft) Meriam (1723-1770) was the wife of Rev. Jonas Meriam; mother-in-law of John Kenrick Esq.

E-1367 Harriot (Russell) (Jackson) Kenrick (1794-1874), widow of Steven Badger Jackson, (grandson of Michael (see G-

1191)) married William Kenrick in 1824.

E-1366 William Kenrick (1790-1872), son of John Esq., was a partner in the nursery business before inheriting it from his father. (His brother, John A., took the homestead. William's house on Nonantum Hill was subsequently moved to 144 Franklin Street). A founding member of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, William became widely known for the introduction of new strains of apples and for his publications. His first catalogue, in 1836, was followed by *The New American Orchardist* and *The American Silk Growers' Guide*. His interest in silk production led to experiments in mulberry growing in the South, and when, in the 1840s the venture failed, he sought to recoup his losses by developing part of his estate, creating Newton's fourth suburban subdivision, known first as Woodland Vale, and now as Kenrick Park.

In 1843, William was one of Newton's representatives appointed to meet with the committee of the General Court to discuss the division of the Town. Beginning as a dispute over where to build a Town House, in Newton Centre or in West Newton, the controversy threatened to split the Town along parish lines (see K-2094).

SECTION F

F-1265 Joshua Hammond (1720-1792) was the great-great-grandson of Thomas (see Monument) and the grandson of Mehitabel (A-684). Starting as a hogreeve in his early twenties, Joshua held just about every minor office, serving in due course on committees concerned with schools and school-houses, on drawing up regulations for the workhouse, and eventually as selectman and overseer of the poor. He was on the committee in 1773 that rejected the request of the inhabitants in the west part of Town for funds for winter preaching. In the years preceding the Revolution he was on the committee to

draft measures pertaining to the emergency, on another to respond to the tea embargo, and on Town Committees of Correspondence (four times).

When the war broke out, he was concerned with hiring soldiers and certifying their equipment. He was at Concord and Lexington and lent the Town 190 pounds to pay soldiers. He died of smallpox.

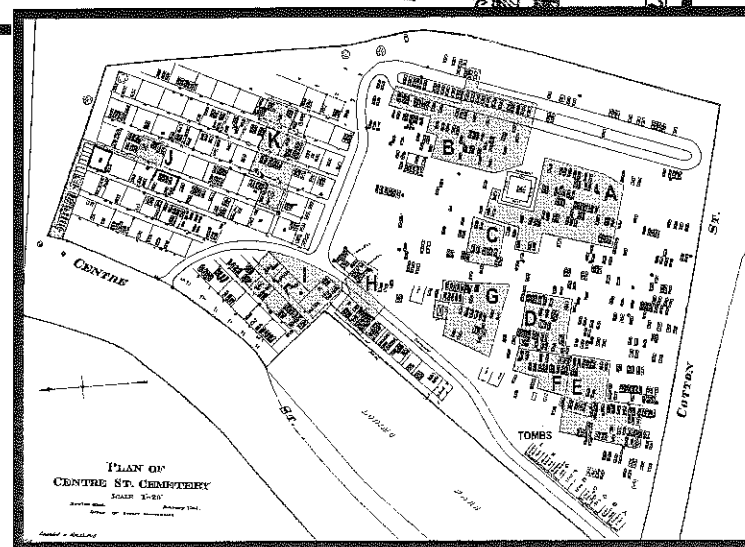
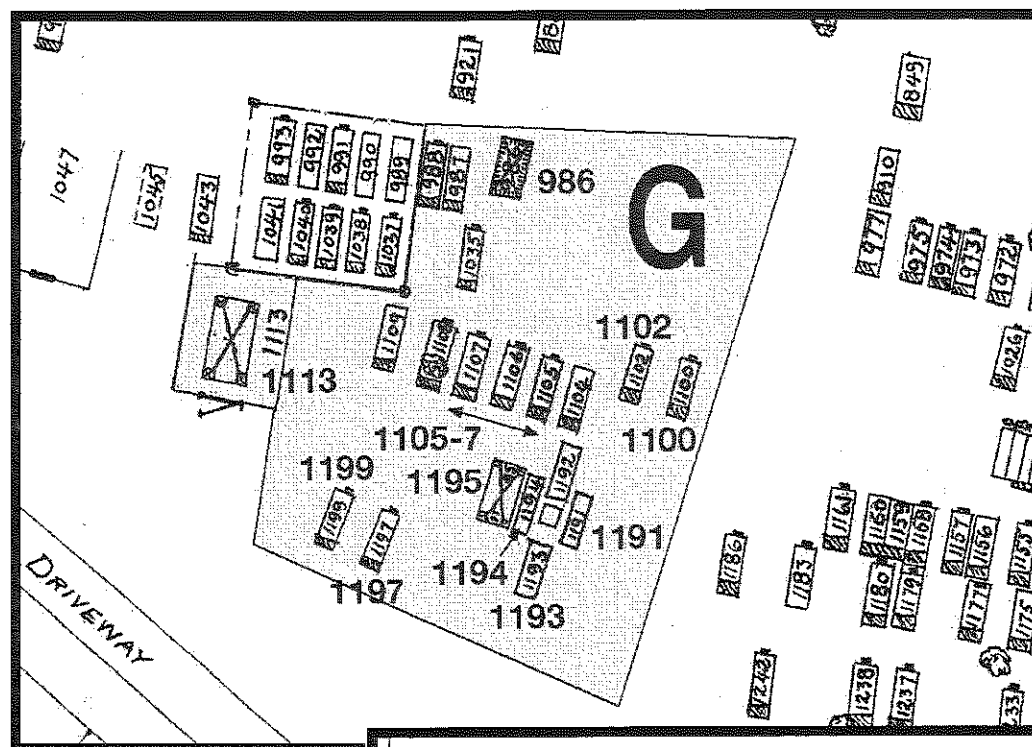
F-1264 Elizabeth (Prentice) Hammond (1714-1798) was the daughter of Captain Thomas Prentice (d. 1730) and may have written the verse on B-272 (see also Thomas Prentice (A-576) and Thomas Prentice (A-491)). She and Joshua Hammond were married in 1739. Their son William, born the following year, grew up to become a captain in the Newton militia during Shays's Rebellion. When, later, he moved to Maine, he took with him a copy of the payroll and a collection of other Prentice and Hammond papers recently acquired by the Museum.

F-1233 Ann (Gibbs) Eddy (1749-1793), the daughter of Hannah (D-1172) and Henry Gibbs (D-1174), married as her second husband, John Eddy (E-1177). Daniel Hastings was paid for carving her gravestones. (This stone, badly damaged, is lying on the ground.)

F-1177 John Eddy A.M. (1745-1787) taught at the grammar school in 1767 and was a collector of taxes in 1784 and 1785.

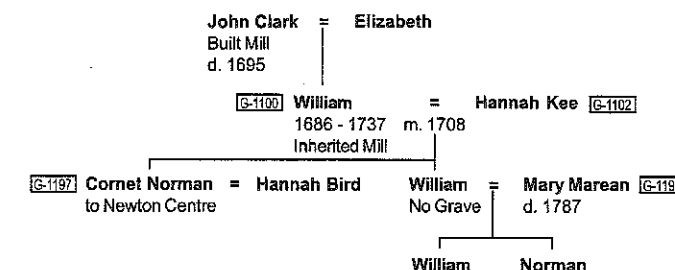
F-1271 John Eddy (1787-1805) was the son of Ann and John A.M.

F-1272 Gibbs W. Eddy (1783-1805) was the son of Ann and John A.M.



SECTION G

G-1100 William Clark (1686-1737) was the son of John (d. 1695) from whom he and his brother John (d. 1730) inherited the sawmill at Upper Falls. Built in 1688, it was the first mill on the Charles in Newton. By 1725, when William sold his share to Noah Parker, a fulling and a grist mill had been added.



G-1102 Hannah (Kee) Clark married William (d. 1737) in 1708.

G-986 Timothy Jackson (1756-1814).

Sarah (Winchester) Jackson (1755-1815), his wife.

Abigail Jackson (1763-1851), his youngest sister.

Timothy Jackson (d. 1814), son of Timothy (1726-1774), was born in the old homestead on the Natick Road (Washington Street) built in 1670 by his great-great-grandfather, Edward (d. 1681), for his son Sebas. Timothy was at Concord and Lexington, and the following year shipped out of Salem on a privateer, leaving the farm in the care of his newly widowed mother and his sisters. (The eldest, Lucy, gave her name to one of Newton's two chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution). On his return five years later, Timothy married Sarah Winchester, taught at the local school, revitalized the farm and, by 1802, had a share in a soap and candle factory in Boston (making him one of Newton's earliest commuters). At the

same time he became involved in public affairs: in 1791 he was appointed deputy sheriff for Middlesex County, in 1793, a major in the Middlesex Brigade and, shortly thereafter, a justice of the peace. He served as representative to the General Court from 1797 until his death, but ran unsuccessfully for Congress. Locally, beginning in 1779 as a hogreeve, he served in several capacities: tithingman, constable, overseer of the poor and, for six years, as selectman and sometimes as moderator. He was also a member of several special committees, such as those to raise soldiers, and, before he became one, to instruct the representative. On several occasions he was appointed to committees concerned with the schools, including that charged with approaching General Hull, as the executor and legatee of Judge Fuller, to inquire about the three hundred pounds left for building an Academy in Newton (see G-1113). In 1807 he was involved in the process of dividing the Town into wards for the first time.

In 1809 he rebuilt the homestead, incorporating the old saltbox in the present Federal Style building, now the Newton History Museum at 527 Washington Street.

Timothy and Sarah had six children; all buried here: H-1595 William (1785-1855), G-987 Lucretia (and her husband, Enoch Wiswall), J-2210 Stephen W. (1787-1847), I-1692 Francis, the historian, (1789-1861), H-1549 George (1792-1867) and I-1699 Edmund (1795-1875).

G-1107 Stephen Winchester (1723-1798) was the son of Stephen (d. 1751) from whom he inherited the mansion house and fifty-seven acres in Newton Highlands (once part of Haynes's farm) through which the highway to Upper Falls (now Winchester Street) had previously been bounded.

When Stephen died in 1798, he left all his Newton assets to his son Amasa, who gave three-quarters of an acre to enlarge the South Burying Ground. (Laid out in 1802, deeded to the Town in 1833).

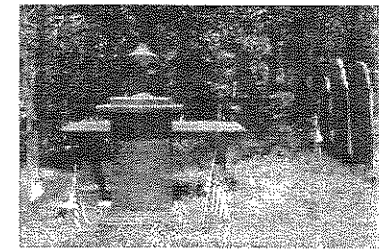
Stephen held a number of town offices including selectman

and overseer of the workhouse, and was involved in the care of several of the Town's needy: he provided a cow for the use of a family of Neutral French from Acadia quartered on the Town during the French and Indian War.

G-1106 Hannah (Hastings) (Aspinwall) Winchester (1740-1801) was the sister of one stonecutter, Daniel Hastings, (possibly responsible for this cluster of family markers) and the sister-in-law of another, Ebenezer Howard, who married her sister Mary. Hannah married Stephen Winchester in 1764; a second marriage for both.

G-1105 Stephen Winchester (1762-1786) was the son of Stephen (d. 1798) and his first wife, Beulah.

G-1193 General Michael Jackson (1734-1801) was a great-great-grand-son of Edward (d. 1681), and, like his (distant) cousin, Timothy (1756-1814), lived on Washington Street, their properties separated by the brook now culverted under Jackson Road. Michael filled several low-level town offices before 1775, but it is as a soldier that he is remembered. A lieutenant in the French and Indian War, he was chosen to captain the Newton Minutemen when they assembled on April 19. Promoted lieutenant-colonel after Bunker Hill, he was a full colonel by 1777 and, for the three weeks before he was discharged at the end of the war, he was a brevet-major.



Michael took part in most major engagements and was a member of Washington's personal staff. He was wounded twice.

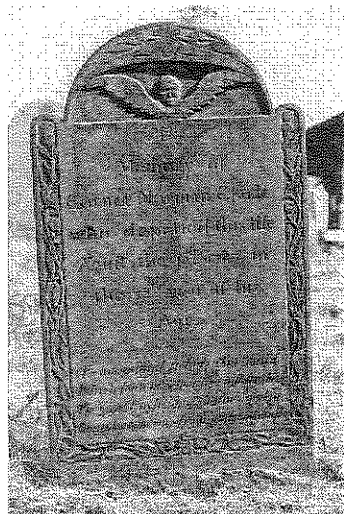
Michael was accompanied by his wife Ruth (G-1192) and their five sons; only two of whom, Michael and Simon (who is buried in G-1195) were of military age when he presented them to the muster master in January, 1777. The younger three, Ebenezer, Amasa and Charles, initially rejected, were eventually allowed to join his battalion as drummers and fifers.

All were among the 340 original members of the Massachusetts Chapter of the Cincinnati.

Ruth (Parker) Jackson (1731-1810), wife of General Michael, spent the winter of 1777-8 with him and their sons at Valley Forge, where her care for the sick and wounded earned the praise of General Washington, who called her "the angel of the army". Later, at West Point, she entertained the General and Mrs. Washington and, on the afternoon before he defected, Benedict Arnold. After General Michael's death, she lived with their son, Ebenezer, first in South Carolina and then in Middletown, Connecticut, where she died and is buried.

G-1191 Michael Jackson (1759-1802), the eldest son of Ruth and Michael (d. 1801) served in the army from January 1777 until he was marshaled out as a captain at the end of the war. In 1814 he married Sarah Badger and settled in Medfield. Their son, Steven Badger Jackson, was the first husband of William Kenrick's wife Harriot Russell (E-1367).

G-1194 Charles Jackson (1767-1801), the youngest son of Michael and Ruth was allowed to join his father's battalion in 1777 as a fifer: he eventually attained the rank of ensign. After the War he moved to Georgia and is buried there.



G-1195 Simon Jackson (1760-1818) held office occasionally during the 1780s and '90s. There is a portrait in oils of his son, Charles Augustus (1790-1868), in the Museum.

G-1197 Cornet Norman Clark (1711-1787), the son of William and Hannah (G-1100, 1102) lived on the Sherborne Road (Clark Street) in Newton Centre. He filled several local positions, was a selectman for five years and served on committees concerned with soldiers' pay, with the schools, on the workhouse, on the bridge near Upper Falls, and on the 1781 Committee of Correspondence. He was a trustee of the fund for the Cambridge Great Bridge and lent ninety pounds to pay the

soldiers.

G-1199 Mary Clark (1707-1787) was Cornet Norman's sister-in-law: the wife of William and Hannah's son William.

G-1113 Fuller-Hull Tomb.

Judge Abraham Fuller (1720-1794), son of Joseph (A-334) and Sarah (Jackson), inherited the family farm on his father's death, by which time the property extended from Newtonville Square almost to Beacon Street.

Fuller filled several lower level offices before being elected selectman and, from 1766, serving for twenty-seven years as town clerk and treasurer. At the same time he was Newton's representative to the General Court for eighteen years, senator, on the Governor's Council and a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas. In addition, he was on a committee to oppose a petition from Watertown to annex additional acres to the weir lands (see C-798), and another to oppose the amount of water diverted through Mother Brook (in Dedham) from the Charles River to the Neponset (1767). Local committees of which he was a member dealt primarily with schools and the ministry.

Abraham Fuller represented the Town at the Convention at Faneuil Hall (1768) and at the Provincial Congress in 1775. He lent funds for the support of the French Family (see G-1107) and for paying soldiers.



*Top: The Fuller-Hull Tomb before emergency restoration work.
Middle and Bottom: Interior views of the vault.*

Always interested in education, as a young man Fuller ran a private grammar school, and in his will he left three hundred pounds for an Academy in Newton. Because of the poor state of the finances of the legatee, his son-in-law William Hull, the Fuller Academy did not become a reality until the 1830s (see below).

General William Hull (1753-1825), born in Derby, Connecticut, took his law degree at Yale and was admitted to the Bar in 1775. He had a distinguished military career during the Revolution: commissioned major in 1777 and lieutenant-colonel in '79. In 1781, he married Sarah, only surviving child of Abraham and Sarah Fuller, and, after the war, settled in Newton Corner (where he built Nonantum House), started a law practice and became involved in the affairs of the Town. He filled several routine offices before representing Newton in the legislature and sitting as a justice on the Court of Common Pleas. He served on committees to present petitions to the General Court objecting to taxes levied for the upkeep of the County Bridge at Lower Falls (1784) and the Great Bridge in Cambridge (1795); and another requesting permission to tax non-residents. In 1797 he was a member of a local committee appointed to settle the line between the East and West Parishes.

In 1786 on behalf of the Town, he drafted a letter declining to take part in Shays's Rebellion, and as a major general in the Massachusetts militia, played a major role in its suppression.

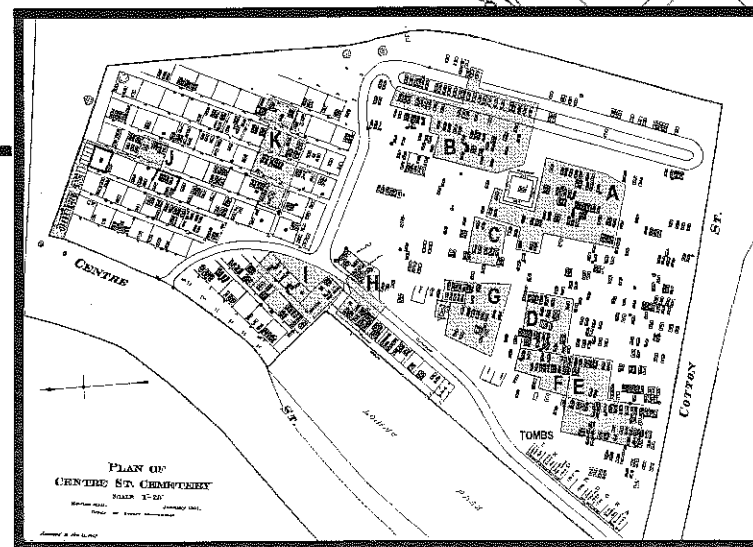
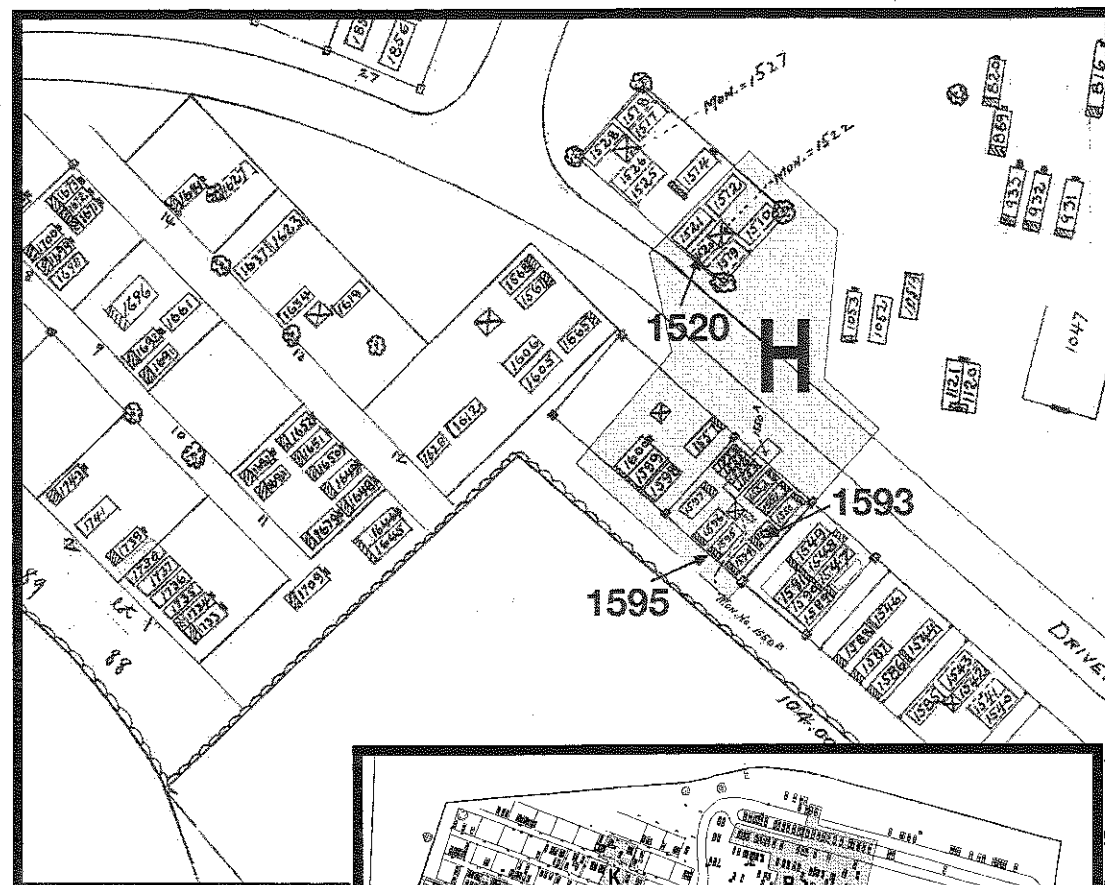
In 1805 he was appointed Governor of the Michigan Territory. When the War of 1812 broke out he was he was commissioned Brigadier-General of the North-Western Army. Besieged in Detroit (with several thousand women and children), he surrendered to the British, was sentenced to be shot, but was pardoned by President Madison.

In 1814, he and Sarah were able to return to the family farm in Newtonville, but in such straitened circumstances that he was unable, as legatee and executor, to pay the Town the three hundred dollars bequeathed by his father-in-law for an "

Academy". (The Fuller Academy, built after Hull's death, was short-lived. The building was subsequently used by Horace Mann for the Normal School, and then by Nathaniel T. Allen for the West Newton English and Classical School.)

G-1113 Sarah (Fuller) Hull (1757-1824), daughter of Abraham and Sarah Fuller, accompanied her husband on his campaigns during the Revolution and later to Michigan. One of the two Newton chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution is named after her.

G-1113 Othello Freeman, said to have been the last slave in Newton, belonged to William Hull. Commonly known as Tillo, tradition has it that he was buried "near" the General, whom he outlived by several years.



SECTION H

The burying ground was enlarged twice in the nineteenth century. In 1804 the Proprietors of Tombs bought the strip of land bordering Loring Park, and in 1834 the Town bought the abutting acre to the north on Centre Street. Six years later a committee was appointed to lay out family plots, sell them and use the proceeds to "improve and beautify the grounds". Although most of the approximately 100 lots appear to have been sold by the mid-1840s, some owners subsequently chose to be buried (or have family members reburied) in the, by then, more fashionable Newton Cemetery on Walnut Street (consecrated in 1855). Thus, a number of lots are unoccupied. There are several differences between the old burying place and the nineteenth century additions: carved surfaces no longer necessarily face west, white marble rather than gray slate is the material of choice, and in addition to markers, monuments, often bearing the names of family members buried elsewhere, are not uncommon.

H-1595 William Jackson (1783-1855) was the eldest son of Timothy (G-986) and Sarah. After being educated in Newton (part of the time at the school in which his father taught), he lived for several years in Boston while working in Timothy's soap and candle factory (and serving a term as state representative).

Back in Newton, his involvement in local affairs began in 1823, when he served as selectman and on a committee to see to the inoculation of cattle against swine-pox, and continued until just before his death.

The intervening years were a period of steady growth for Newton; administering the Town became more complex and as the number of offices proliferated there was hardly one of importance that William did not fill. Schools were an ongoing interest: he was on the first (1827) and several subsequent committees to "take over the general superintendence of schools agreeable to the commonwealth", to "apportion" money

among the growing number of schools, and, in the early 1850s, to study the necessity for a "pure high school". (When the high school eventually opened in 1859 one of the first pupils was William's grandson, William Jackson Fuller, who kept a diary, now at the Musuem.) William also helped start, and was the president of the first Board of Trustees of the Newton Female Academy, a private high school in Newton Centre (attended by at least two of his daughters). He was several times on committees concerned with the Poor House, including one to "provide better accommodation for idiotic and insane paupers."

He was a member of committees that approached General Hull, then his widow, and finally, his heirs, on the matter of Judge Fuller's bequest (see G-1113), and in the 1840s was involved in the discussions concerning the division of the Town along parish lines, and then, when those proposals were turned down, the choice of a site for a new Town House (see E-1366).

William was a member of the committee that applied successfully to the postmaster general for a post office in Newton Corner, and on others to explore more effective means for collecting taxes and repairing highways. With his brother-in-law, Elijah F. Woodward, he was on the committee charged with laying out and improving the addition to the burying ground.

A founding member and first treasurer of the Newton Temperance Association, William was the first president of its offshoot, the Newton Savings Bank. He served at various times as Newton's state representative, and, for one session, in Congress.

In addition to being a deacon of the First Church, he helped gather the Eliot Church (1845) and was the first president of the Sunday School Union.

An early advocate of railroads, as opposed to canals, as a means of connecting the east coast to points further west, it was due largely to William's efforts that the Boston and Worcester Railroad was laid through Newton (rather than Waltham) in the 1830s, and that frequent commuter service was introduced a decade later. Among the first to anticipate the effect on the real estate market, he was the developer of

Walnut Park, Newton's first residential subdivision, and later of Waban Park, and was one of the directors of the North Auburndale Land Company. He was involved in seven railroad companies.

It is unclear who among the members of his family, two wives: Hannah Woodward and Mary Bennett and seventeen children, are buried here. For instance, William Ward Jackson (1831-1881) whose marker has no plot number is buried in St. Mary's Cemetery in Lower Falls.

H-1593 Ellen Dorinda Jackson (1825-1902), the fifth daughter of William and Mary was a talented artist; her flower paintings are currently reproduced as note cards by the Newton Historical Society.

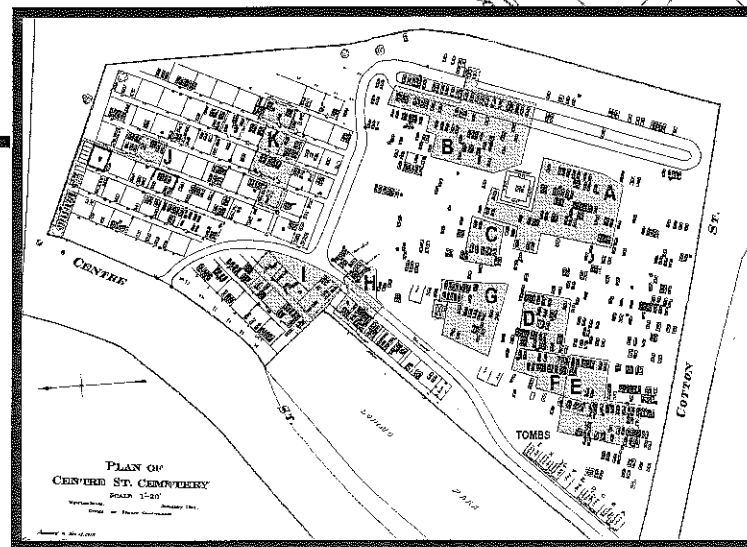
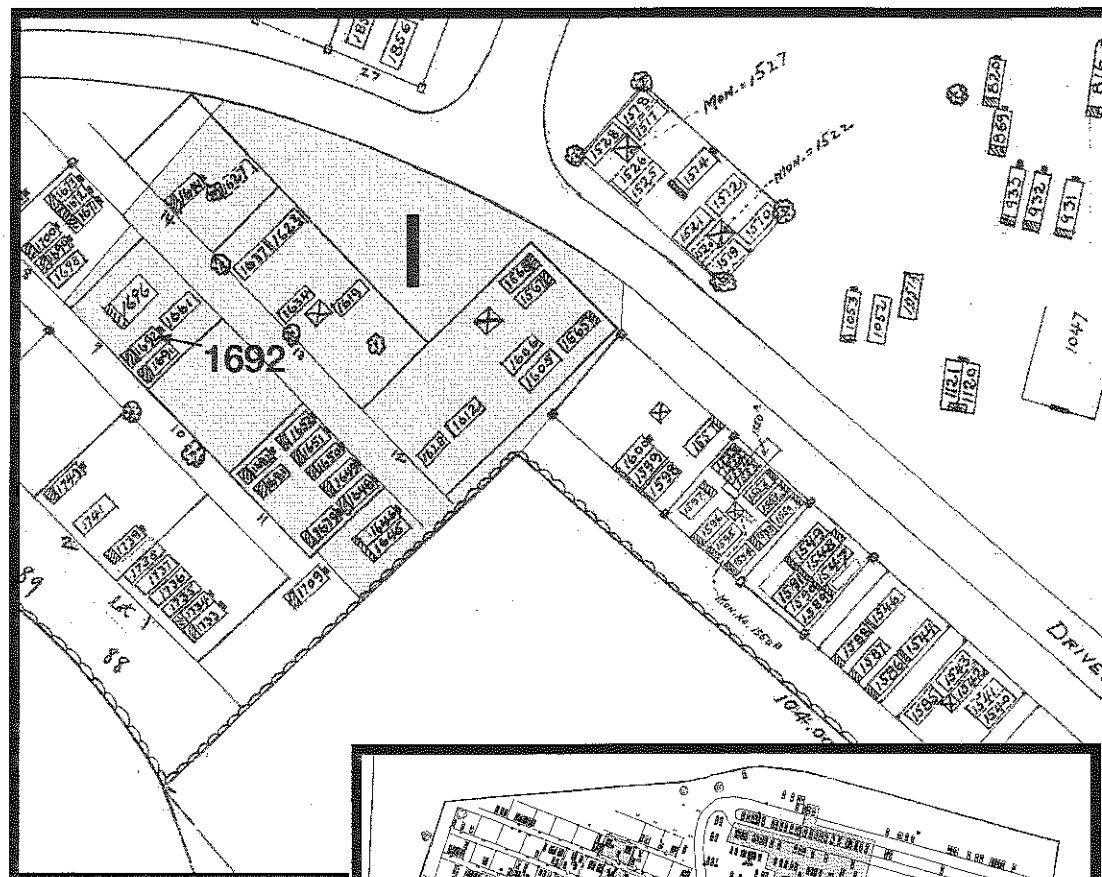
In April 1865, she organized the local branch of the New England Freedman's Aid Society, becoming the first president, an office she held for thirty-seven years. The society's sewing circle, which met every two weeks, made and collected clothes and similar items that were sent to southern institutions such as Tuskegee and the Hampton Institute.

Ellen's *Annals from the Old Homestead* written in 1894, is the main source of information on the house as a station on the Underground Railroad.

H-1520 Reverend Jonathan Homer (1759-1843) was ordained in 1782, the year after Newton was divided into two parishes.

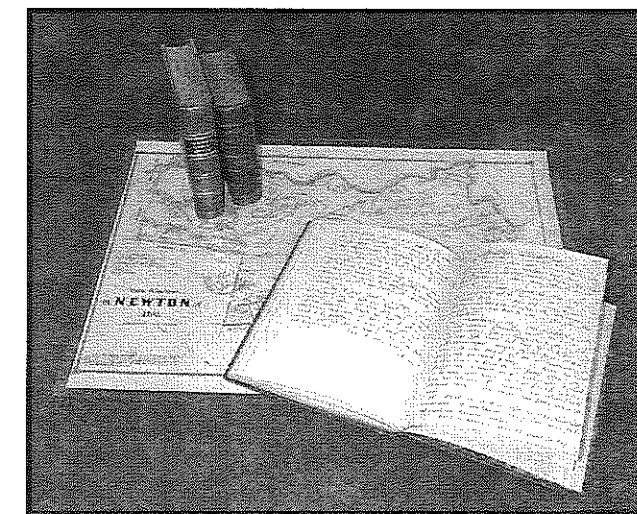
In 1898, the Massachusetts Historical Society published his *Description and History of Newton in the County of Middlesex*. Anecdotal rather than chronological, he dwells largely on John Eliot and the Protestant Mission, but also notes that in the (then) sixteen years of his "pastoral office" he endeavored "to recover the wrecks of history, civil and religious" lost in Mr. Meriam's fire.

Although his memorial tablet, and those of his wife, Anna (Curtis) Homer (H-1519) and their son, Jonathan, (H-1521) are here, they are buried with her family in Tomb C.

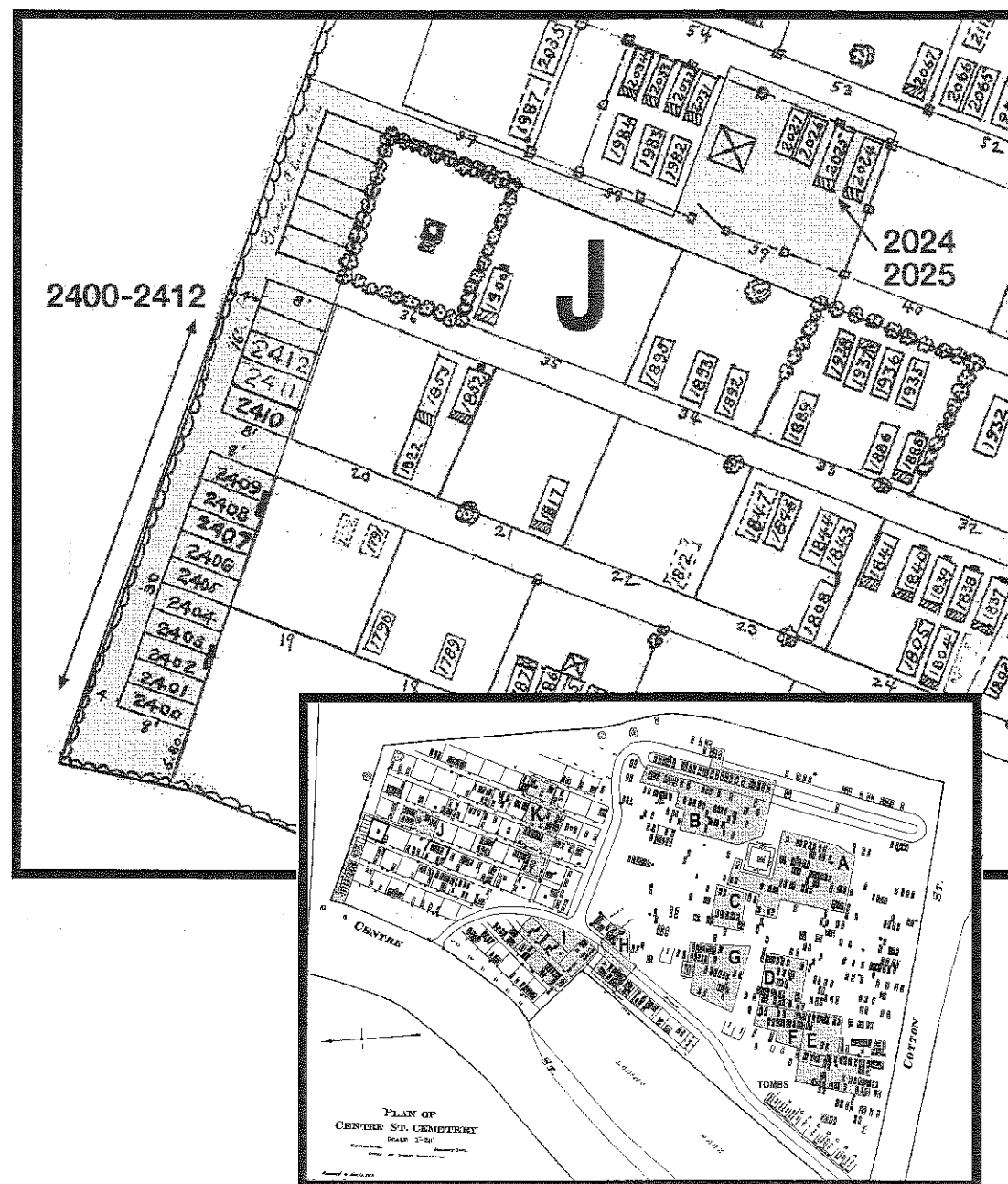


SECTION I

I-1692 Francis Jackson (1789-1861), third son of Timothy and Sarah, though peripherally involved in some of his brother William's real estate ventures, spent his adult life in Boston. "A generous friend of anti-slavery reform", in 1844 he resigned his position as justice of the peace because he could not continue to support the constitution of the United States while "it regarded the slave code as lawful in the states that enacted it". He was for many years the president of the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society and treasurer of the Vigilance Committee. He was an early champion of women's rights. Locally, however, he is best known for his *History of Newton*, which includes the *Genealogical Registry of its Inhabitants prior to 1800* from which much of the material in this guide is drawn.



Map, notebook and 1st edition of Jackson's *History of Newton*.



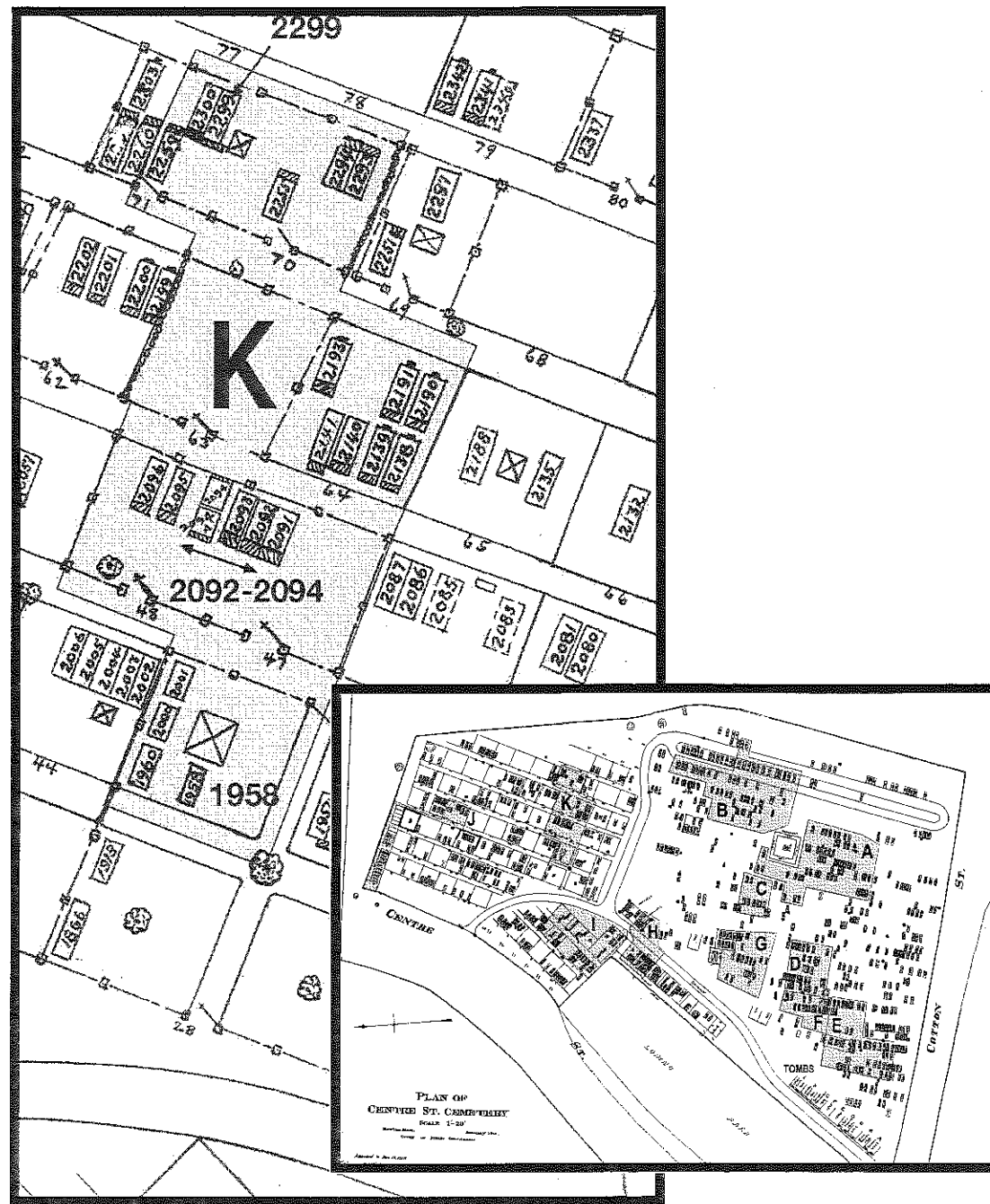
SECTION J

J-2400-2412 The Grace Episcopal Church has owned these and seven additional unnumbered lots along the fence since 1902, as well as ten graves in an unidentified plot acquired in the 1880s.

J-2034 Matthias Collins (1745-1785). The elder Collins, a blacksmith, bought 100 acres on Beacon Street in 1778. Added to by his son, the younger Matthias, the Collins farm was one of four that were subdivided to create the village of Waban in the late nineteenth century.

In the few years he lived in Newton, this Matthias held various town offices and was on the committee to study the draft constitution for Massachusetts.

J-2025 Matthias Collins (1776-1856). There was hardly a year between 1809 and 1832 that the younger Matthias was out of office, serving mostly in those concerned with town finances, such as assessor, collector, auditor, and on committees to audit the accounts of the Kenrick Fund and the Poor House, and to "apportion" school money. He was a selectman, state representative and the first treasurer of the Newton Female Academy (see William Jackson). When he died his estate was divided among his three sons: Amasa (J-1982) is buried here, but better remembered are Frederick, who built the Greek Revival house still standing at 1734 Beacon Street, and Edward, active in town, county and state government and treasurer of the Newton Savings Bank.



SECTION K

K-1958 Joseph Bacon (1782-1854) was born in Sudbury, Massachusetts. He married Beulah Fuller in 1805 and came to Newton probably in the same year, settling first in West Newton and then in Newton Corner (by mid-century there would be three Bacon houses on Bacon Street). One of Newton's first successful businessmen (he made his money as "a country trader" and in real estate), he regularly filled low-level positions such as sealer of leather, fireward, fenceviewer, as well as that of selectman. He served on committees "to better regulate the schools", to "better accommodate idiotic and insane paupers", two on building a new Town House (see J-2094), as well as others on providing a fire engine, on safeguarding the Town's fishing rights on the river, and on several occasions on auditing the Town accounts. He was a member of the first Board of Directors of the Newton Savings Bank. When, in 1843, he declined serving as a fenceviewer, his place was filled by his son, Joseph Newman, the first of several future generations of Bacons who contributed significantly to the commercial, political and cultural life of Newton, town and city.

K-2093 Silas Fuller (1765-1844), a great-great-grandson of the original John (d. 1699), served at times as poundkeeper, tithingman and constable, but, most frequently, as surveyor of lumber.

In 1804 he was on the committee to build the new Meeting House in the First Parish. It is possible that, like two of his sons, he was a builder.

K-2092 Ruth (Hoogs) Fuller (1774-1837) was the daughter of William Hoogs who built the first dam across the river below Washington Street at Lower Falls. She married Silas Fuller in 1793.

K-2094 John Bentley Hoogs Fuller (1795-1870), eldest son of Silas and Ruth, was a builder. Constantly serving as surveyor

of lumber, he was appointed in 1833 to the committee to "attend to the building of the Town House" (later the Lyceum on the Common in Newton Centre) and, in 1844, to another "for building the Town House", this time in West Newton, which began the deliberations leading eventually to the purchase and renovation of the Second Church on Washington Street that became Newton's first Town Hall. He was also involved in the building of the Female Academy in Newton Centre.

K-2299 Elijah F. Woodward (1786-1846) inherited the house at 50 Fairlee Road in Waban that his great-grandfather had built in 1681. (The house descended through his younger son to the seventh generation before it was sold in the 1960s; his elder son, Ebenezer, one of Newton's earliest commuters, built the house at 488 Centre Street).

Woodward was a surveyor, and with William F. Ward (great-great-grandson of Newton's original John) was responsible for the 1831 map of Newton and, in 1840, for the plan for the addition to the burying ground. After his death a handwritten version was found on which, no doubt as a member of the committee charged with selling the lots, he had written the names of the purchasers. His interest in the burying ground was not new: in 1822, he had been a member of the committee appointed to repair the tombs of the former ministers (see John Eliot B-290).

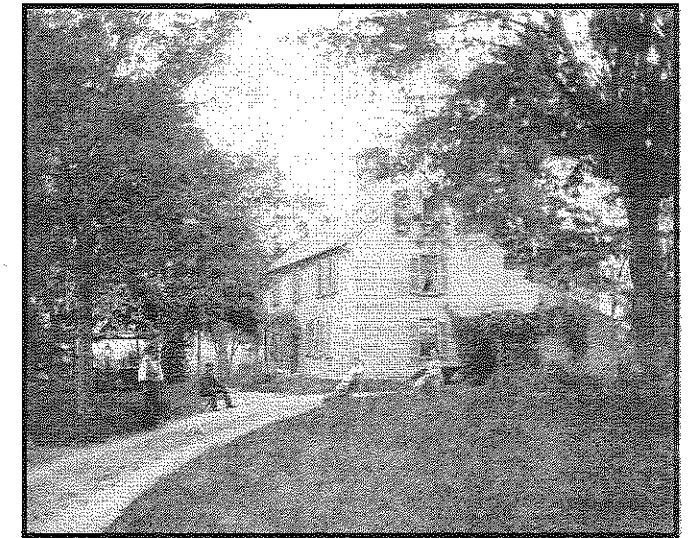
He was a deacon of the First Church, lead the choir (he was a member of the Newton Musical Society) and organized the Sunday School, which he ran for thirty-seven years. He acted as secretary to the committee formed to organize the Female Academy in Newton Centre and served on the building committee.

His involvement in Town government began in 1810 with the usual routine appointments and lasted until his death. He served as selectman several times, and four years as state representative. He was town clerk and treasurer from 1826 until he died. His primary interest seems to have been education: he served on committees on schools and schoolhouses, to

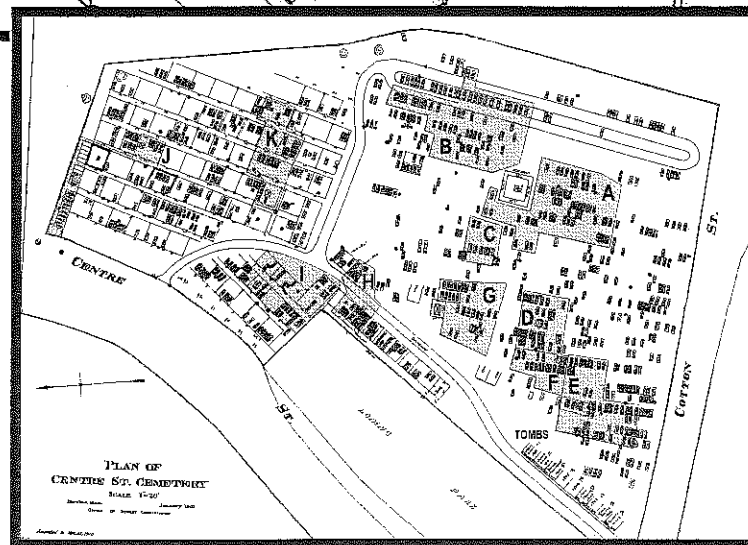
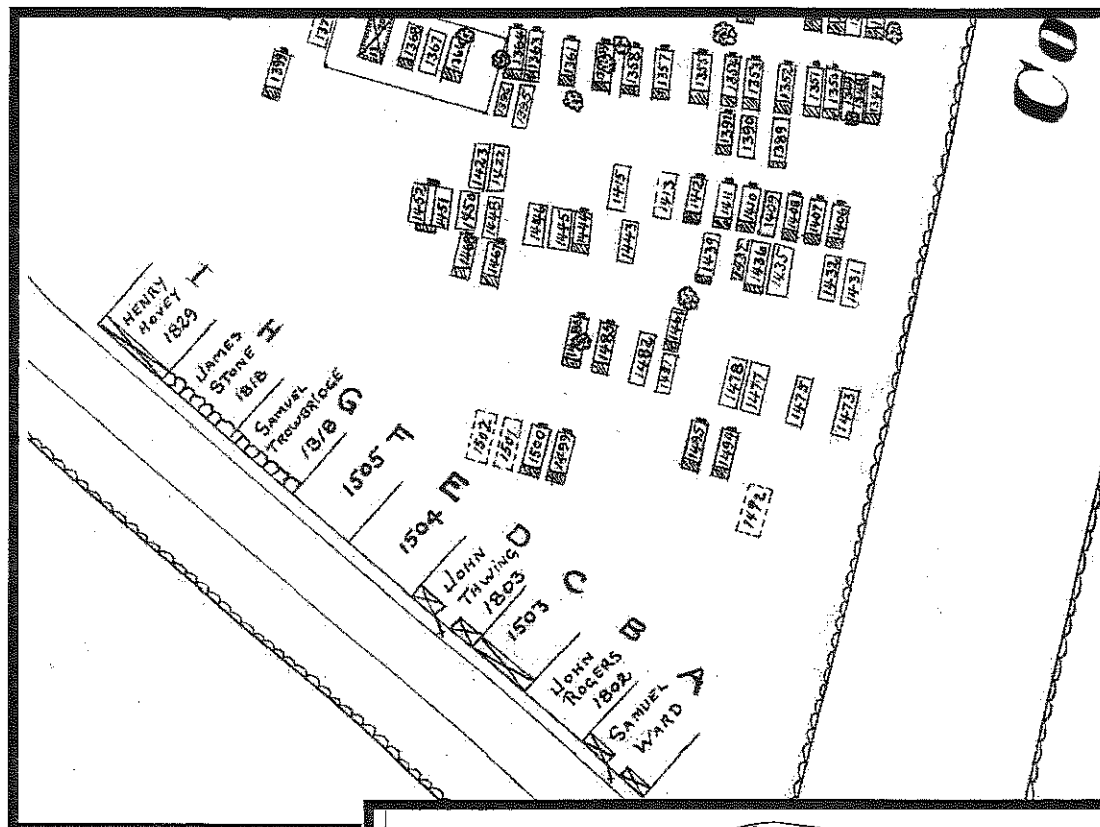
appoint teachers, to "apportion" school money (1817), for the "better regulating of schools" (with the ministers from the First, Second and Baptist Churches), and to carry into effect the state laws relating to public schools by setting up committees to supervise them (1826), among others.

He was on a committee to provide better accommodation for "idiotic and insane paupers" and another to meet with the State Legislature to discuss the division of the Town (1844), and, the following year, to consider building a new Town House in West Newton (see K-2094).

Recording his death, the minutes of the town meeting add: "In this inflicted event the Town has sustained a loss unprecedented in its history."



The Woodward Homestead on Fairlee Road in Waban.



TOMBS

Tomb F: John Woodward (1725-1801), grandson of the original settler, was the third generation to live in the Fairlee Road house. His involvement in public affairs began in 1752, and for the next four decades he filled a variety of offices carrying varying degrees of responsibility: tithingman, surveyor of highways, assessor, overseer of the poor, and as a member of the committee to draft rules and regulations for the workhouse. He served on committees concerned with the schools (and taught at two in his neighborhood), was appointed to another to appear at the General Court to answer the petition of residents in the west part of Town who wanted to be "put off" as a separate parish, and on others to save the Town from the expense of the Great Bridge in Cambridge and the County Bridge in Lower Falls, and, in 1797, on yet another to join with the mill-owners at Upper Falls to "defend their natural rights against any invaders (i.e. mill-owners on the Neponset) in attempting to turn the stream of the [Charles] River out of its natural course" through Mother Brook in Dedham.

He was active before and during the Revolution. In 1774, he was on the committee considering the tea embargo, on three occasions on Town Committees of Correspondence, on another to draft instructions for the Town's delegate to the Provincial Congress, and on others to raise Newton's quota of men, to audit the accounts for hiring them (he lent money to pay them), and to care for the families of non-commissioned officers and privates.

He was at Concord and Lexington, by which time he had risen from ensign to captain.

Tomb C: Obadiah Curtis (d. 1811) and Martha Curtis (d. 1816) moved from Boston to what was then known as East Newton in the 1780s where they and subsequently their descendants lived on Waverley Avenue. A wheelwright, he had taken part in the Tea Party and played an active role in the Revolution. He held minor offices in Newton. The Curtis's had

two daughters: Anna who married the Reverend Jonathan Homer and Martha who married, first, Dr. Samuel Clarke of Boston, and after his death, the Reverend James Freeman.

For the **Reverend Jonathan Homer (1759-1843)**, **Anna Homer (d. 1824)** and **Jonathan Homer Jr.** see memorial tablets **H-1520**.

Tomb C: Samuel Clarke (d. 1830) and Rebecca (Hull) Clarke (1790-1865). Samuel was the son of Dr. Samuel Clarke of Boston and Martha Curtis. In 1805 he married Rebecca, daughter of General William Hull (G-1113). After living briefly in Newton, they moved to Hanover, New Hampshire, where he graduated as a physician from Dartmouth. Returning to Newton, he practiced medicine from their home near the burying ground on Centre Street for several years, during which he developed an interest in the manufacture of drugs and chemicals, which took them briefly to Boston. Back in Newton once again, they built the original wing now part of the house at 168 Homer Street, and in 1826 bought from Sarah Hull (Rebecca's mother) approximately thirteen acres at the southern extremity of the old Fuller Farm. Included in the purchase was the right to dam Cold Spring Brook and create a pond to supply water power for a mill for grinding chemicals. Samuel died shortly after production started and Rebecca moved to Boston where, for many years, she ran the boarding house at 3 Somerset Street frequented by Horace Mann, the Peabody sisters, and their friends and associates.

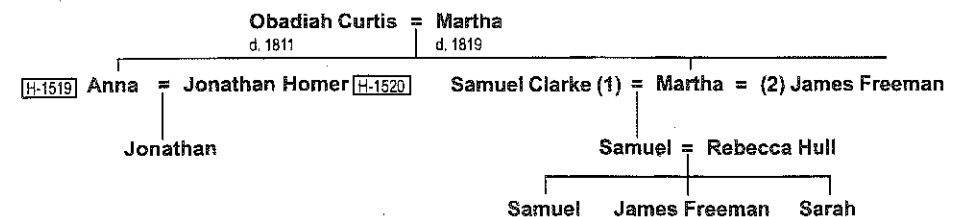
The millpond, somewhat modified, is now one of several linked waterbodies that dominate the landscape in the Newton Cemetery.

Tomb C: Reverend James Freeman (d. 1835) and Martha (Curtis) (Clarke) Freeman (d. 1841) James Freeman, Martha (Curtis) Clarke's second husband, was for forty years the rector of King's Chapel in Boston, the first church in the vicinity, according to Samuel Francis Smith, "to declare itself in favor of the new theology" (Unitarianism). After commuting for many years, he retired to the house on Waverley Avenue where he

was host to many distinguished scholars and, this time according to King's Handbook, raised the first tomatoes in Massachusetts (from seed he brought from Baltimore).

Tomb B: John Rogers (1724-1815), a blacksmith, was, according to the Rev. Jonathan Homer, "noted for his singular skill displayed in various mechanical inventions". In 1761 he made and presented to the Meeting House, "an excellent clock", which, when the First Church closed its doors, was among the "singular objects" donated to the Museum of Fine Arts.

Beginning in 1754 as a surveyor of highways, Rogers served the Town in various capacities, including, three years as selectman, and in 1773 on the committee that rejected the request of the residents in the west part of Town for funds for winter preaching. Then, in 1777, his name and that of Joseph Bullough (who, for a brief period operated the mill on the pond that now bears his name) were added to the list of "inimical persons". No reasons are recorded, and in both cases a declaration of loyalty was accepted later in the year and Rogers went on to serve on committees to regulate the price of sundry articles, to raise soldiers and to study the new constitution for Massachusetts. In 1798, at the age of seventy-four, he filled what appears to have been his last office, that of weigher of bread.



It took little more than a generation for the railroad to transform Newton from a tightly knit community in which everyone was related to nearly everyone else, to a rapidly expanding residential suburb in which new names soon outnumbered the old. The Newton Cemetery opened in 1855, and from then on, interest in the old burying ground waned. But, despite periods of low maintenance and incidents of vandalism (the vaults had to be sealed early in the last century), the oldest, most fragile, and the most evocative of the city's historic sites has endured, a reminder of when and how Newton began.

SOURCES AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Material for *Where Newton Began* was culled from several sources, principally the Newton Town Records and the Document Collection at the Newton History Museum. (*Newton Massachusetts, 1679-1779, A Biographical Directory* compiled with Priscilla Ritter is a good short cut to the Town Records.) In addition, I have used the standard histories of Newton, the Middlesex County Registry of Deeds and the Registry of Probate. I am indebted to Laurel Gabel, now Director Emerita of the Association of Gravestone Studies, for the names of the stone cutters mentioned in Newton wills and inventories.

No publication is produced in a vacuum: I would like to thank Marietta Marchitelli for constructive suggestions when they were most needed, Duscha Weisskopf for proof reading and editing, Susan Abele, Curator of Manuscripts and Photographs, whose help in preparing the text was indispensable, and David Olson, Director of the Museum, who transformed that text into this book.

T.F., 2004

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